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SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1916.

A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.

By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

PERSISTENCE.

A sturdy soul was that one who
By Fortune sadly tricked,
Deep in the mesh of woe and rue
Went smiling on and never knew
Or guessed that he'd been lied;
And knowing not his evil fate
Just grinned when Fortune slammed the gate,
And fearless of all slip or fall
Went out by climbing o'er the wall!

(Copyright, 1916.)

The best policy is the one that makes good.

Most diplomatic notes are discounted these days.

One-half the world wonders why the other half keep phonographs.

Some people get a reputation for thriftiness when they are just stingy.

When people say that a man is close we infer that it is hard to touch him.

One of the finest Southerners we ever knew says he never helped lynch a negro.

Why leave Washington for a change of climate? We get it right here every few days.

The brunette who doesn't want to be a blond is not worrying about the shortage of dyestuffs.

Congress has been in session for nearly three months now, and no special harm has been done yet.

Experience may be the best teacher, but we notice that it always has a large post-graduate class.

There are Houses and Houses. For instance, the one that has been to Europe and the one that is a part of Congress.

Judge Gary of the Steel Trust evidently has no sense of humor. He has denied a report that he may be a Presidential candidate.

Those Senators who voted against tabling the Gore amendment are now seeking to divest themselves of the role of comedians.

The German authorities have sentenced a Belgian woman to prison at hard labor for treason. She is only a martyr that has been caught.

A society in England is trying to secure an agreement by which horses and mules may be kept off the battlefields. It doesn't matter about men.

The foreign and domestic press which regards the Senate vote on the Gore resolution as a triumph for the President got the wrong starting signal.

If Hoke Smith's ears are not made of asbestos they are burning yet because of the things people have been saying about that speech he made in the Senate.

The White House denial of the story that President Wilson was thinking of resigning was unnecessary. No thinking person paid heed to such twaddle.

At last reports President Wilson was bearing up well under the charge that he is a sympathizer with the allies. He still has the accusation of the allies to cope with.

In the early days, Federal appropriations for building highways were justified on the ground of military expediency, but today political expediency is the keynote.

In spite of the fact that a great many persons demand that street cars be heated it must be remembered that possibly a majority of the passengers complain of the system that scorches their legs or their skirts. Why not apply the cost of heating to the wages of motormen and conductors?

"My observations have convinced me that the girl who is most sought after by young men makes the best kind of a teacher," says a Philadelphia school official. "The same qualities that attract young men appeal strongly to children. Cupid has robbed us of some of our very best teachers." Sounds like a tribute to the good sense of Philadelphia young men, but if it's true we don't see how they manage to keep any good teachers over there at all; certainly not if they have a rule 45 in operation.

The Horrors of War.

Senator Gore said he was moved to offer his resolution of warning to Americans not to sail on ships of the belligerents, because they might bring on war with Germany, and he wished to avert "such a terrible catastrophe." In further urging the resolution the Senator said the American who thus sailed, bore the risk of "ingulfing this republic in a sea of carnage and blood." Just how terrible a catastrophe or how much of a sea of carnage or a sea of blood would take place in a war between the United States and Germany at the present time, is something of a puzzle. With hardly a corporal's guard of soldiers to be spared from the trenches on their many fronts in Europe and Asia, and with practically no navy to get them over here to invade us, and with this republic without an army to speak of, as armies go nowadays, to invade Germany, it is difficult to see where any sea of carnage or blood comes in.

But perhaps Senator Gore was indulging in hyperbole, or speaking in a Pickwickian sense after the manner of his friend W. Jennings Bryan, now and then. The latter, not long since, in one of his Chautauqua addresses, while God-blessing the President and feeling for his fifth rib, said we had been spared thus far the "unspeakable horrors of war." Brother Bryan, however, may have been thinking of the war in Mexico which raged during his directorate of the State Department, between his friends Villa and Huerta and Carranza and the unfortunate Americans in that hapless country. He knew all about that war, and that it was indeed an unspeakable horror, largely due to his own act in not recognizing the de facto government of Gen. Huerta on highly moral grounds.

But Senator Gore's war with Germany, for which he seems to have voted via his roundabout and somewhat unconstitutional amendment, might see little blood-letting after all. While there could hardly be battles or trench sieges with big guns in the event of war this country could hunt down and hang the German spies who have been sent over to blow up our munition factories and place bombs on ships carrying American products to foreign markets. And at the same time we could send over a few destroyers—we have some very good ones—to protect Americans with their property sailing on merchant ships and, incidentally, to help out in sinking submarine pirates whenever they showed their ugly heads on the sea around the ports of destination which we wish to reach. As to other phases of the war on sea or land they can be safely left to the fleets and armies of the allies, as heretofore.

One Way to Prepare.

Statesmen of all parties, in Congress and out, could not better put in their time for the next few weeks than in painstaking study of the bill introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs.

For the first time in the history of this country, in the Chamberlain bill, a committee of Congress has put forward an adequate, comprehensive and intelligent military program. Senator Chamberlain and his colleagues on the Military Affairs Committee should be congratulated. That the bill has been framed, not despite the advice but with the co-operation of the military experts of the country, and that it represents in their view the best combination possible of the professional and volunteer army ideas, should in itself be reassuring.

The bill aims virtually at all the glaring defects in our present system. It recognizes the fact that service to the country in time of peace must be made attractive if it is to be voluntary. This is true whether that service be in the professional army or in some volunteer force. The bill also recognizes the necessity not only of training individuals in time of peace for military service, but of organizing such individuals into the tactical units used in war.

It is interesting to note that despite the President's repudiation of the plan, the continental army theory has been vitalized and made practicable by the simple expedient of applying the volunteer army act to peace times, authorizing the President to arm and train Federal volunteers in time of peace and without waiting for further authorization by Congress.

There can be no question in the mind of any reasonable person that the offering of a slight compensation for service in the reserve, with the privilege of going into that reserve as soon as proficiency in military training is attained, will operate to increase the number of enlistments and at the same time attract to the regular army many from a hitherto untapped field—the field of young men at a time of life when a year in the army will not interfere with future professional or business careers and when the year of military training and discipline will prove an attraction rather than a horror.

Civil Service and Pensions.

There is this to be said about the Borland amendment. If all government employees were required to do a full day's work of eight hours there would be less objection in Congress and elsewhere to a civil service pension system. In other words, if the impression prevailed throughout the country that government employees in Washington were required to work the same hours that employees engaged in similar private employ are required to work in ordinary business establishments throughout the country there would be less opposition in Congress and in the country to the idea of a civil service pension list.

Following out this idea, it would seem to be a mistake on the part of the civil service authorities to oppose the Borland amendment, which proposes to increase the term of service to a minimum of eight hours per day. Eight hours is accepted as a standard of a day's work by the American Federation of Labor and by the Federal government in all of its statutes.

Why should any exception be made for the

departmental employees in the District of Columbia?

It has been charged that the civil service employees are underpaid. That is true, as The Herald has often said. But the surest way to secure an increase for these underpaid employees is to enact a law which would require all employees to perform what is recognized as a full day's service. Such a law will give excuse to cut out the superfluous employees and dispose of the incompetent ones.

If Congress will get down to a practical basis it will be easy to put through a business-like system of civil service pensions.

Bluing the Atmosphere.

By JOHN D. BARRY.

One of my earliest memories relates to playing around at home in a room that used to be mainly devoted to the washing of clothes. Every Monday morning brought a scene of activity there, further enlivened by the coming of a raw-boned, powerful figure, whose rich brogue expressed the richness of the heart within. To have endured my presence under those circumstances was alone a testimony in her favor. Not once did she complain of me or insist on my being bundled out of the way. With good-humored patience she would answer my questions and she would let me look on while she battled in the cause of cleanliness. Each Monday there was a moment that had for me a curious fascination when into a tub filled with clear water and white clothes, and out of a blue bottle she would throw large drops of bluing. I used to watch the water as, to my wonder, it changed color, turning to a faint blue and then to a deeper blue.

I suppose that performance still goes on in the domestic interiors of a large part of the world. But like many other things that used to charm my childish fancy, it no longer draws my attention. It often comes back to my mind, however, when I see people, not so good-humored as that old Irish washerwoman and not so well-intentioned in their endeavor, throwing bluing into the atmosphere. We all know how common the bluing-browers are encountered and how expert they can be.

People of this kind flourish in the family life. They are abominable self-control. They give up their worst tendencies. Some of them are untiring operators. Their mere presence may turn the atmosphere blue. Often they are fathers, drunk with self-satisfaction and parental authority. "If I know that my father is in the house I feel uncomfortable," I once heard an unhappy girl remark. She belonged to one of those families where the father was king, used to exercising petty tyranny, one of the most dreadful of all social figures.

But though the father is often the greatest offender in this regard, he is by no means the only offender. Most expressions of egotism in the family have the effect of bluing the atmosphere. Moreover, one offender is likely to spread resentment about him or her or uneasiness, all of which tend to deepen the shade. If, with my eyes, we could see the moral atmosphere of many families as it really is, we should be appalled by the color and we should have reason to wonder if a great many secret evils did not thrive in such darkness. The vain and selfish and exacting daughters, the arrogant and overbearing sons, often bring misery to those who, with devotion, have brought them up and made sacrifices for their sake.

Some years ago Life published a cartoon with the title "Charles Is Home From College." It represented an old couple, small and wizened, covering before the mighty presence of their son, with authority and self-satisfaction in every line of his bearing. A man of my acquaintance had it cut out and framed and placed on one of the walls of his home. He explained to me that he wanted his sons, then about 10 and 12 years of age, to become familiar with it and to have the meaning soak in. All the self-made aristocrats of the world tend to turn the atmosphere blue. Those about them they depress with their arrogance. Their opinions they assert with dogmatism. Invariably they are bad listeners, either indifferent or on the alert not to see the good in what is said, but to see what they can find to disagree with or to disagree to resent. Though they may seem to battle for the truth, they are really battling for themselves. They provide some of the innumerable clues to right living that inevitably lead to social democracy. Down the generations they have shown that in democracy alone can the atmosphere be really clear.

All the governmental regulation in the world will not give us democracy unless we really live the spirit of democracy. That means a man who is willing to let every one else have as much freedom as we insist upon taking for ourselves. Democracy, so often mistakenly used as an expression of egotism, is essentially egotism's foe. It insists on self-subordination. It makes regard for the peace and happiness and development of others not a task, but one of the highest rewards of living.

Till every one of us escapes from the desire to be a self-made aristocrat there cannot be such a thing as democracy in the home or anywhere else. If we could look into the daily lives of some of the greatest champions of freedom that the world has known we should find that they did not, in their hearts, love freedom at all. They used freedom as a means to an end, the end being their own aggrandizement. Some of the saddest records of human experience might be made by the wives of great liberals, who, defenders of the light abroad, through their petty exactions of those about them keep the domestic atmosphere blue.

But the overbearing people are not the only offenders in this regard. There are the complainers. We find them everywhere. As life does not suit them, as their outlook is dark, they do what they can to make it dark for others. To live among the complaining people is indeed one of the hardest tests of character. The best that can be said of them is the best that can be said of the self-made aristocrat. They are sick. They have lost the healthy relations with the forces around them. And by their reactions they make those forces their enemies. They show what the philosophers have repeatedly pointed out, that there is not a world outside ourselves, but that every one who comes into consciousness creates a world of his own.

The most considerable man that I know recently astonished me by saying: "The hardest problem that I have to face in life is put up to me by selfish and discourteous people, by those who take advantage of all the courtesy and favor extended to them and, instead of becoming more considerate, grow less so." It must be acknowledged that there are such people and that they create a great deal of misery in the world. Behind nearly every one of them there lies the influence of some woman, perhaps an overfond mother who has spoiled them with indulgence. Just what to do with them it is sometimes difficult to decide. The more they are allowed to take in the way of advantage the more their bad qualities flourish. Perhaps the best way to treat them is as what they really are, cripples, with allowance for their weakness, but without undue concession. At their worst they are deserving of pity. Trying as they are to others, they are even more trying to themselves. Invariably, their exactions on life lead to disappointment and misery.

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THE OPEN FORUM

Writers Discuss Lynching, Borland Amendment and Use of Schools on Sunday

Editor of The Washington Herald: In your editorial, "Lynching in Georgia," you say "obviously the government of Georgia is not doing its duty to society or it would suppress lynching. One mob repulsed with rifles, if necessary, would be a long step toward restoration of law and order."

As a Georgian, loyal to my native State, I realize the truth of your indictment and the force of your suggested remedy. As commanding officer of a military company the writer, not many years ago, came near having the opportunity of applying the rifle remedy. There is a reason for the untoward and unfortunate conditions resulting in the lawless treatment, murder, of alleged criminals in that State.

For many days of reconstruction when it appeared that the Ku Klux Klan was necessary to save Georgia from negro domination, the black rapist was summarily dealt with on the theory that it was necessary to strike terror into the hearts of those who had in mind the crime against momentarily unprotected white women. But intelligent and observant people had years ago become convinced that the remedy was a failure and that its application was doing harm, that it aggravated the crime, and that a lynch law was becoming a greater menace. The conditions in Georgia would now be normal and lynching a thing of memory but for one unfortunate incident, the murder of Mary Phagan, a small factory girl of 14 years, and that of a girl, P. M. Fisher, a libelous and incendiary weekly paper capitalized the incident as a matter of business and political expediency. The publisher claiming to tell his readers the more or less ignorant readers that mob law is the highest law. He is a strong and daring writer who appropriates the law and lawless side of every incident to hold the attention of the low and glib readers interested in his diatribes against decency and against law and the courts.

That the frequent lynchings in Georgia, and less frequent crimes of that nature in adjoining States are outcroppings of his baleful influence no well informed person doubts. But rather than be condemned, but rather than Her white people are like the native-born white people of the other States, probably no better, certainly no worse. I admit that the record is against her. The explanation of the unusual conditions should be generally known and well understood.

Of course, Georgia will resume her high place among the moral and law-abiding States of the Union whenever the explanation of the unusual conditions should be generally known and well understood. Of course, Georgia will resume her high place among the moral and law-abiding States of the Union whenever the explanation of the unusual conditions should be generally known and well understood. Of course, Georgia will resume her high place among the moral and law-abiding States of the Union whenever the explanation of the unusual conditions should be generally known and well understood.

Editor of The Washington Herald: I have read an article in your issue of February 27, signed by T. P. Monahan, Mr. Monahan in discussing what he calls extravagant appropriations by Congress for public buildings, makes this statement:

"But Anderson, S. C., caps the climax. With a population of only 576 it gets \$70,000 for a new courthouse. The court is never held there." There are two glaring inaccuracies in this statement. The census of 1910 gives the city of Anderson a population of 9,651, and the population has probably increased 20 per cent since 1910. Anderson is the county seat of a county of approximately 100,000 population, and there are half a dozen manufacturing plants just outside the city which bring the total of population up to 25,000. There is no courthouse there. There is a post office building, which cost, I believe, \$70,000. Federal court has never been held at Anderson, but it is reasonable to assume that if the city keeps growing in population and commercial importance it will not be long until the court is held there.

If Mr. Monahan is as inaccurate in his other statements as he is in regard to Anderson, I respectfully submit that he is not a proper person to argue against the proposed law requiring government clerks in Washington to do the same amount of work that is required of government clerks in other parts of the country, and that required of clerks in private establishments everywhere.

Editor of The Washington Herald: I cordially agree with all you say opposing the Borland amendment which proposes to add one hour to the workday of the government clerk.

Can't you use a little space in your good paper to oppose the use of the public school buildings on Sunday? That means adding nearly a whole day to the other six workdays of the janitors, who must heat the buildings before the Sunday meetings and clean the buildings afterward. And they are to get no increase of regular pay for all that extra work.

Of course the organizations which meet in the buildings on Sunday may take up a "collection" for the janitors, but that is not the point. The janitors have to work seven days every week and have to depend on "tips" to pay him for his extra work on Sunday. The Board of Education can't pay the janitor an extra salary for Sunday work and can't employ an extra janitor for the work, and the board has regulated that and the board has neither the money nor the authority to help the janitor.

The janitors work more than eight hours in each of six days now. During the cold weather they frequently are obliged to be in the buildings as early as 5 or 6 o'clock a. m. In order that the buildings may be warm enough for the children by 8:30 or 9 o'clock. After school is over the janitors must clean the buildings, bank the fires, clean the yards and attend to the thousand and one things which must be done before they can go to their homes. They more often work twelve hours than eight. During night school season the janitor has night work besides and gets only a mere pittance for it.

In spite of all this it is now proposed to make the janitors work on Sunday, in addition to their regular six days' work. Many of those who belong to long hours government clerks. They have all Sunday to themselves and they object rightly to the proposed added hour to their workday. Yet they are asked to help the janitor to add another whole day to his work time. Is it fair?

And there is no good reason for it either. I telephoned the Franklin School Building and am informed that the "Forum" has been granted, by the Board of Education, the use of a school building on any weekday or evening.

The District of Columbia would not be possible for them, the clerks, through the aid of their organization could be Mr. Borland and others of his kind to be more careful or perhaps their presence would be needed at home.

DAN L. ROE.

Should Demand More Pay.

Editor of The Washington Herald: The ferment over the Borland bill is hissing in Washington's atmosphere. Some poet wrote:

"How few think justly of the thinking few."

How many never think who think they do."

Is it not barely possible this is true about this disturbing question. The writer has little sympathy with the man who is seeking special privileges all the time. The government clerk who is seeking a seven-hour day strikes me as seeking special privileges, for the average American clerk works nearer ten hours a day than seven, in my random guess. The average business man works nearer ten hours a day than seven, the average person universally works nearer ten hours a day than seven. I am very frank to say I believe the government clerk, unless his is some especially technical, trying work, should work eight hours a day.

But there is another side to this, and the substantial side, too, namely, is the government clerks sufficiently paid? My knowledge convinces me he is scandalously, yes, miserably underpaid. A government clerk receiving from Uncle Sam \$1,000 a year would get \$1,500 from Miss Canada for the same services, excepting he would have to work eight hours a day for Miss Canada and not seven hours. A clerk getting \$1,500 a year from Uncle Sam would get from Johnny Bull \$2,500 a year, but an eight-hour day. A clerk getting from almost any first-class manufacturing firm \$1,500 a year, would get from Uncle Sam about \$1,200. No, my dear Mr. Clerk, don't kick about that extra hour, but raise a rebellion about your miserable, contemptible and unrighteous small salary.

ELIJAH E. KNOTT.

Why Pick the Clerks?

Editor of The Washington Herald: Why is it that every time the government is threatened with a shortage of funds or the Treasury sees in its horizon a big deficit, the big bulk of the Congress seems naturally to flash its blinding rays on the government clerk for a solution of the situations. Congress seems to say to itself: "Let's see, I guess we can get around that by cutting down the salaries of the government clerk or by increasing his hours of labor."

Why can't Congress get wise to the fact that every time it molests the government clerks with threats of injurious legislation, it lessens the efficiency of that part of the government machinery. Add another hour to his already laborious task and the government employee becomes less efficient brooding over the injustice that he feels is being done to him.

Surely this measure will not meet with the approval of the members of the Cabinet and that great big-hearted Woodrow Wilson who is sagacious enough to know that his approval of increasing labor hours for those under him would mean the approval of increasing the hours of laboring men and women generally. Such a measure would require his signature, which fact would be communicated to every labor union in the United States (including those in your own district, Mr. Borland). But you are already on record, and I am sure that when you increase the hours of labor your success at the ballot box will diminish to an appreciable degree.

J. C. B.

Married Women in Office.

Editor of The Washington Herald: If Representative Borland really wants to add to the Treasury of the United States by dismissing about 3,000 clerks, why not dismiss the married women in all the departments?

Some of the highest salaried clerks in the Geological Survey and Treasury especially are in the offices with their husbands and get some of the largest salaries. E. THORNTON.

Says Janitors Would Suffer.

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Can't you use a little space in your good paper to oppose the use of the public school buildings on Sunday? That means adding nearly a whole day to the other six workdays of the janitors, who must heat the buildings before the Sunday meetings and clean the buildings afterward. And they are to get no increase of regular pay for all that extra work.

Of course the organizations which meet in the buildings on Sunday may take up a "collection" for the janitors, but that is not the point. The janitors have to work seven days every week and have to depend on "tips" to pay him for his extra work on Sunday. The Board of Education can't pay the janitor an extra salary for Sunday work and can't employ an extra janitor for the work, and the board has regulated that and the board has neither the money nor the authority to help the janitor.

The janitors work more than eight hours in each of six days now. During the cold weather they frequently are obliged to be in the buildings as early as 5 or 6 o'clock a. m. In order that the buildings may be warm enough for the children by 8:30 or 9 o'clock. After school is over the janitors must clean the buildings, bank the fires, clean the yards and attend to the thousand and one things which must be done before they can go to their homes. They more often work twelve hours than eight. During night school season the janitor has night work besides and gets only a mere pittance for it.

In spite of all this it is now proposed to make the janitors work on Sunday, in addition to their regular six days' work. Many of those who belong to long hours government clerks. They have all Sunday to themselves and they object rightly to the proposed added hour to their workday. Yet they are asked to help the janitor to add another whole day to his work time. Is it fair?

And there is no good reason for it either. I telephoned the Franklin School Building and am informed that the "Forum" has been granted, by the Board of Education, the use of a school building on any weekday or evening.

In view of this permit me to call attention to the fact that there is in Washington an organization which dates its foundation back to the year 1870 that for at least twenty years past has conducted on every Sunday afternoon during